

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9944

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 00562

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: TAW

REF: LUSAKA 00552

1. TAW REP SAVAGE REQUESTS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ALAN DYNNER BE TRANSMITTED TO BONNIE HENDERSON AND LAWRENCE MANNING AT OPIC WASHINGTON.

2. QUOTE PLEASE TELEPHONE MESSAGE IMMEDIATELY TO ERNEST KALIBALA AT TAW IN NEW YORK 212-758-8048. KALIBALA TO TRANSMIT MESSAGE TO GENERAL MOTORS, RYDER, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, CHASE, FRUEHAUF, AND HARTMAN AT EXIM BANK.

3. GRZ HAS REFUSED REINSTATEMENT OF TAW CONTRACTS. DECISION APPARENTLY MADE AFTER TERRIF CABINET BATTLE ON POLITICAL GROUNDS AND BECAUSE CERTAIN OFFICIALS BELIEVE GRZ NO LONGER NEEDS EQUIPMENT. GRZ LEGAL STAFF IS INCOMPETENT AND HAS ADVISED GRZ THAT IT HAS RIGHT TO CANCEL. IN ADDITION, GRZ HAS ATTEMPTED TO BLAME TAW FOR ALL TRANSPORT PROBLEMS AND CLAIM DAMAGES OF K1000,000,000. THIS APPEARS TO BE MERE SMOKE SCREEN FOR PUBLIC AND ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE TAW TO SETTLE CHEAP, SINCE THERE IS NO BASIS FOR GRZ CLAIM AND IN ANY EVENT CONTRACTS PRECLUDE CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. WE ARE ADVISED BY RESPONSIBLE SOURCES THAT, WHILE GRZ DOES NOT EXPECT TO WIN ITS CASE, IT BELIEVES PAYMENT TO TAW IN SETTLEMENT OR ARBITRATION WILL BE CHEAPER THAN TAKING TRUCKS IT MAY NOT NEED THIS VIEW SUPPORTED BY SEVERAL GRZ OVERTURES BEFORE TODAY, SEEKING
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TO DISCUSS AMOUNT OF DAMAGES.

4. TAW HAS FORMALLY MADE CLAIM FOR AT LEAST \$26.5 MILLION, DEMANDED RETURN OF ALL UNITS, AND NOTIFIED GRZ THAT IT IS REQUIRING ARBITRATION. TAW HELD PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY TO TELL FULL STORY. STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO PROVIDE STORAGE AND SECURITY FOR ALL EQUIPMENT.

5. MY PARTNER, JOE BRIGATTI, RETURNING TO WASHINGTON ON WEEKEND AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR MORE DETAILED EXPLANATIONS. OUR PRESENT PLANS ARE TO RETURN NEXT WEEK AFTER CLEANING UP LOOSE ENDS HER. END QUOTE. NELSON

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Message Attributes

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